

We have only 12 judges per million populations which is too low compared to 124 in France, 107 in United States of America, 75 in Canada, 51 in Britain and 41 in Australia. Even from the approved strength of 1079 Judges, there are only 646 working with 433 i.e. 40% vacancy.

Supreme Court of India in a PIL, All India Judges Assn Vs Union of India (2002) 4 SCC 247, Supreme Court of India has directed the Union of India and the States in March 2002, to increase the judges strength from 10.5 to 50 judges per million populations by March 2007.

**Law Commission of India in its Report No. 245 under 'Arrears and Backlog: Creating Additional Judicial manpower' - states "Denial of 'timely justice' amounts to denial of justice itself.** Two are internal to each other. Timely disposal of cases is essential for maintaining rule of law and providing access to justice which is a guaranteed fundamental right. It also says "Judicial System is unable to deliver timely justice because of huge backlog of cases for which the current judge's strength is completely inadequate. Further in addition to the already backlogged cases, the system is not being able to keep pace with the new cases being instituted, and is not being able to dispose of a comparable number of cases. The already severe

problem of backlog is, therefore, getting exacerbated by the day, leading to a dilution of the Constitutional Guarantee of access of timely justice & erosion of Rule of Law”

*Padmashree Prof. (Dr.) Madhav Menon, Eminent Jurist and Founder National Law Schools in his address at our National Convention 2015 at Bhubneswar stated “Excuse of no more resources nor manpower can be claimed by any government but that is not the fact. We are fairly comfortable with resources. To take a decision from our judiciary, it takes years and years. This is making the poor suffer a great deal as to why a democratic government is not able to settle their disputes.”*